

What is claimed is:

1. A household appliance, in particular a cooking appliance, having a front which extends substantially perpendicular to an installation surface when the household appliance is in the normal operating position and which has a console-type user control and display unit provided on the outer surface thereof; the interior of the housing of the user control and display unit accommodating control electronics which are in signal communication with the control and display elements of the user control and display unit and with power electronics located in the remainder of the household appliance; at least the area of the housing where the control electronics are located being at least temporarily cooled by ambient air, wherein the housing (6.2) of the user control and display unit (6) is arranged on the outer surface (4) of the front (2) in such a manner that at least the area of the housing (6.2) where the control electronics are located is permanently traversed by a flow of ambient air.

2. The household appliance as recited in Claim 1, wherein the user control and display unit (6) is disposed on the outer surface (4) of the front (2) in such a manner that it is substantially equally spaced from the lateral edges (2.1) thereof with respect to the normal operating position of the household appliance.

3. The household appliance as recited in Claim 1 or 2, the household appliance having a body and a door (8), and the front (2) including an upper part and a lower part; the upper part being attached to or forming a unit with the body and the lower part being attached to or forming a unit with the door (8); and the user control and display unit (6) being disposed on the upper part of the front (2), wherein the door (8) has a handle (10) which is designed such that it gives the visual impression of an extension of the console-type user control and display unit (6) when the door (8) is closed.

4. The household appliance as recited in Claim 1 or 2, the household appliance having a body and a door (8), and the front (2) including an upper part and a lower part; the upper part being attached to or forming a unit with the body and the lower part being attached to or forming a unit with the door (8), wherein the door (8) has a handle (10), and the user control and display unit (6) forms a unit with the handle (10).

5. The household appliance as recited in at least one of Claims 1 through 4, wherein the user control and display unit (6) takes the form of a display unit having control elements (6.1).

6. The household appliance as recited in at least one of Claims 1 through 5, wherein when the door (8) is closed, a cooling air inlet port or vapor exhaust port disposed on the body is covered by the display and user control unit (6) in such a manner that the inlet or exhaust port cannot be visually perceived when looking in a direction perpendicular to the outer surface (4) of the front (2).

7. The household appliance as recited in at least one of Claims 1 through 6, wherein when the door (8) is closed, a cooling air inlet port or vapor exhaust port disposed on the body is covered by the display and user control unit (6) in such a manner that the air entering the inlet port and the air emerging from the exhaust port, respectively, is diverted by the display and user control unit (6) into a predetermined direction.

8. The household appliance as recited in at least one of Claims 1 through 7, wherein the user control and display unit (6) is mounted on the front (2) in a manner that substantially avoids heat transfer between the body and/or the door (8) and the user control and display unit (6).